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## DECORATIVE NOTES.

**T**HE little tea-table will still remain part and parcel of the furnishings of the "up to date" living or reception-room, but need no longer be in evidence. Placed in an out-of-the-way corner or behind some convenient sofa, it is only brought forward when the hostess is on hospitable thoughts intent.

**T**HERE is a craze for big, high-backed chairs, such as were fashionable in England some years ago, and which are again fashionable there now. This fact, no doubt, accounts for their adoption here. These especial chairs shown the writer didn't show any woodwork, and were not by any means handsome in their lines, but that didn't matter, so long

**P**RETTILY-bound books in all sorts of conceits, from artistically-tooled leather to fligree silver and even gold covers, are coming into fashion as artistic bric-à-brac, and are allowable evenings in sitting-room, reception-room or boudoir. Books always give a home-like air, even if the leaves are not cut, which fact often goes without saying, as the writer has had the novel sensation of visiting an elegant and extensive library of standard works, most exquisitely bound, that had never been moved from their position in the year or more they had been in place. In fact, many of the supposed rare editions were nothing but dummies. The owner was immensely proud of his library, although his own literary daily studies never soared higher than the market reports in the daily papers and the ticker in the Stock Exchange.



SALON IN A PRIVATE RESIDENCE IN CAIRO IN THE MORRISH STYLE.

as they were "the thing" and "English, you know." One fact in their favor, however—they are extremely comfortable.

**H**IGH-BACK chairs are becoming to the fair sex, and it is funny how some women appreciate this and pose accordingly. Carvings in rare woods or gilt with coverings of rich brocade throw out into greater evidence a handsome toilet. It was told the writer, of course without mention of names, that at a recent reception in this city the hostess received her guests seated in a huge chair whose dark background formed a most artistic effect against her light blue and lace tea-gown. Her plea of indisposition was accepted by all who had any idea of beauty, and not envious enough to thoroughly enjoy the pretty picture so presented for their inspection and, shall we say, admiration.

**I**N buying furniture for your home, if you have a taste for odd pieces, take a look at the auction-rooms; there are many such in every city where odd pieces of furniture may be found at very low prices. Great bargains may often be secured in this way. In the large furniture establishments there are many pretty things to be found, if one will take the time and trouble to look them up. Especially is this true regarding small tables. Great is the variety and low the price thereof, and what gives a living room such a home-like and cheerful air as a small table that will just hold a shaded lamp, a favorite book or two, the current magazines, with perhaps a cigar-stand and ash-tray for the benefit of the Benedict, placed close to some comfortable chair or sofa, a little to one side of the social centre, to suggest secludedness?